

INFORMATION REPORT INFORMATION REPORT

CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

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COUNTRY	USSR (Latvian SSR)	REPORT	50X1-HUM
SUBJECT	Vestspils Harbor	DATE DISTR.	Jul 19
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DATE ACQUIRED		REFERENCES	50X1-HUM 50X1-HUM

SOURCE EVALUATIONS ARE DEFINITIVE. APPRAISAL OF CONTENT IS TENTATIVE.

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1. Until 1950, there was a floating workshop in Ventspils harbor (N 51-25, E 21-30), which was moored on the left bank of the Venta River, opposite the grain elevators (see sketch No. 1 page 4). There were several lathes on its deck. This workshop did not fly a flag or a pennant. There has never been a floating dock in the Ventspils harbor.
2. Between 1950 and 1952, and again since spring of 1954, out at sea by the breakwater, is a suction-type dredger, of 3,000 tons, named CHERNOMORSKIY, which dredges the river and the sea-bed. It flies the Soviet flag and was built in Holland.
3. A three-story building on the right bank of the Venta River, located approximately 400 meters from the beach opposite the castle, is being reconstructed. The length of this building is approximately 30 to 35 meters. It was formerly a dock warehouse, and at present is being used by the fishery combine. To the east of this building, a tower is under construction, and has already reached a height of approximately 25 meters. A two-story building with a metal chimney, which is intended as a boiler house, has been built approximately 10 to 15 meters seaward of the three-story building referred to above. See sketch No. 1 page 4.
4. The whole of Ventspils harbor on the right bank, from the breakwaters to the ferry (see sketch No. 1 page 4), belongs to the Customs Harbor, and is a prohibited zone. Civilian workers employed there receive special permits. The customs area where ships are unloaded is surrounded by a wooden fence, and admittance is gained only with a special permit.
5. The right bank of the river, from the elevators to the ferry, is fenced in and warships are moored there. See sketch No. 1 page 4.

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STATE	X	ARMY	X	NAVY	X	AIR	X	FBI		AEC									
(Note: Washington distribution indicated by "X"; Field distribution by "#")																			

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6. Between 1950 and 1954, there were occasions when there were cranes between the breakwaters, which were used for deepening the river bed. These cranes did not fly flags or pennants (see sketch No. 1).
7. Warships of various types and varying numbers lie at Ventspils. On occasion, there are approximately 30 warships in port. Among them are the so-called large and small hunters, torpedo boats, patrol vessels, and submarines. Almost daily there are warships putting to sea; the usual time to leave port being approximately 0900 hours, and to return, between 1800 and 1900 hours. As a rule, the warships do not all put to sea; some remain in port all day.
8. In July 1954, warships [redacted] were observed in Ventspils [redacted] 50X1-HUM
9. Recently, only one submarine was observed in Ventspils, [redacted] It was 70 to 75 meters long, five to six meters wide, and was armed with six torpedo "apparatuses" and had two 30 to 35 millimeter guns on deck.² 50X1-HUM
10. Large hunters were 45 to 50 meters long, five to six meters wide. Ship's complement was approximately 50 men and the armament consisted of: one gun of approximately 75 millimeter caliber, two guns of approximately 30 to 35 millimeter caliber midships, one, double-barrel, large caliber machine gun, a radar antenna on the mast, and a "bomb thrower".³
11. Small hunters had a complement of 15 to 20 men, and carried: two guns 45 to 50 millimeter caliber, two machine guns, and a radar antenna.
12. Patrol vessels carried: two guns of 80 to 100 millimeter caliber, three guns of 30 to 40 millimeter caliber, three, double-barrel, large caliber machine guns, and a radar antenna.
13. Sketch No. 2 shows the appearance of a radar antenna observed atop a three-story building. The location of this antenna is indicated as item 13 on sketch No. 1.
14. Sketch No. 3 shows the appearance and approximate height of the radar mast which appears as item number 14 on sketch No. 1.

[redacted] Comments:

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1. It is not clear in [redacted] sketch No. 1 whether the two-story building or the three-story building is referred to as a new building at point number 3. Also, the castle referred to in paragraph number 3 is not shown on this sketch. 50X1-HUM
2. Perhaps [redacted] tubes for "apparatuses". 50X1-HUM
3. A depth charge launcher presumably is meant by "bomb thrower". Its location on the ship is not known.

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Legend to Sketch No. 1:

1. Baltic Sea.
2. Outer harbor.
3. New building .
4. Fish combine.
5. Grain elevators .
6. Quay for merchant vessels.
7. Shoreline.
8. Shipyard area.
9. Customs.
10. Ferry.
11. Winter Harbor.
12. Fishing Harbor.
13. Radar antenna.
14. Radar mast.
15. Town bathing beach.
16. Quay for warships.
17. Pontoon bridge.
18. To railway station.
19. Breakwater.

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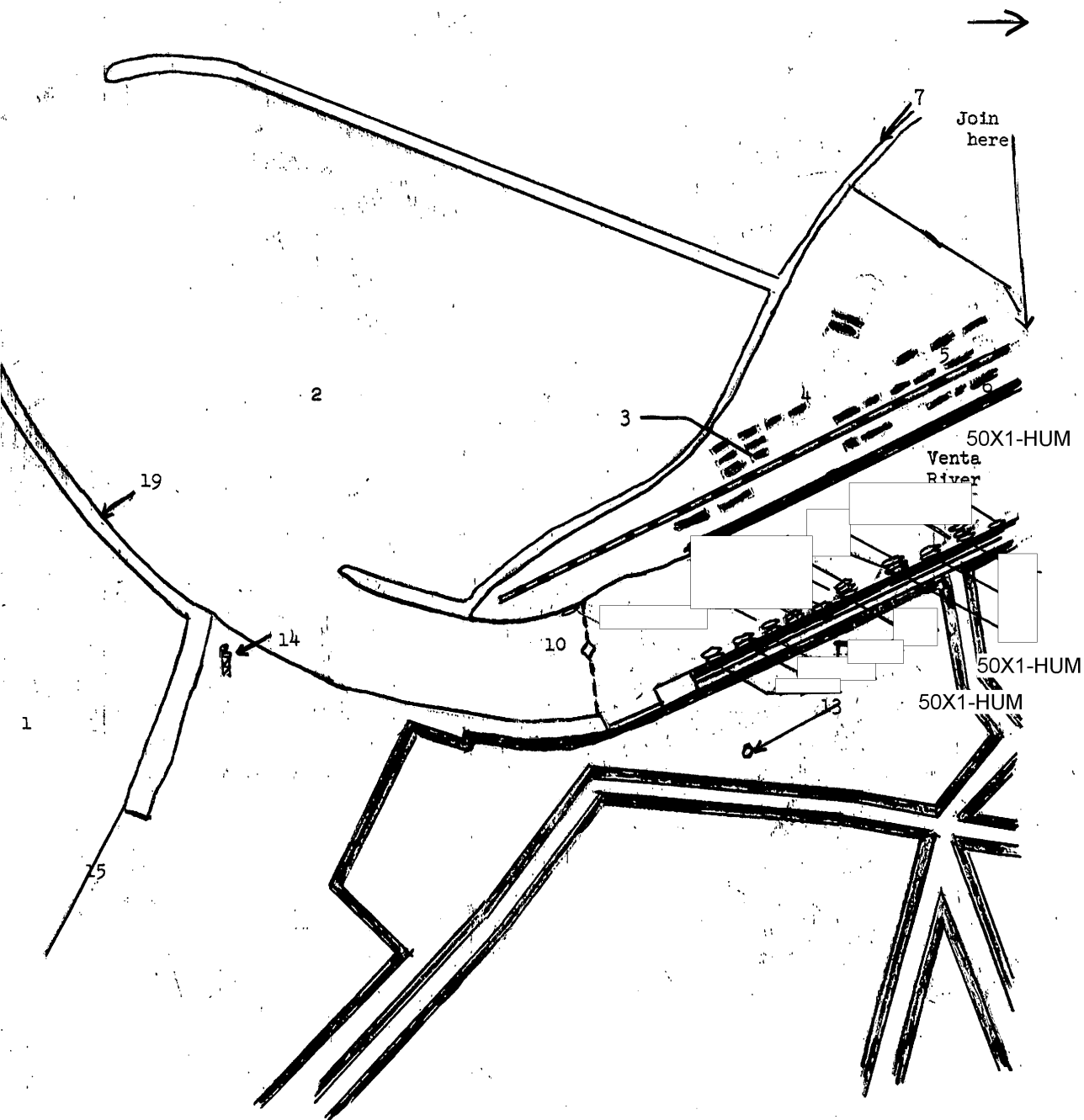
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Sketch No. 1

: Ventspils Harbor



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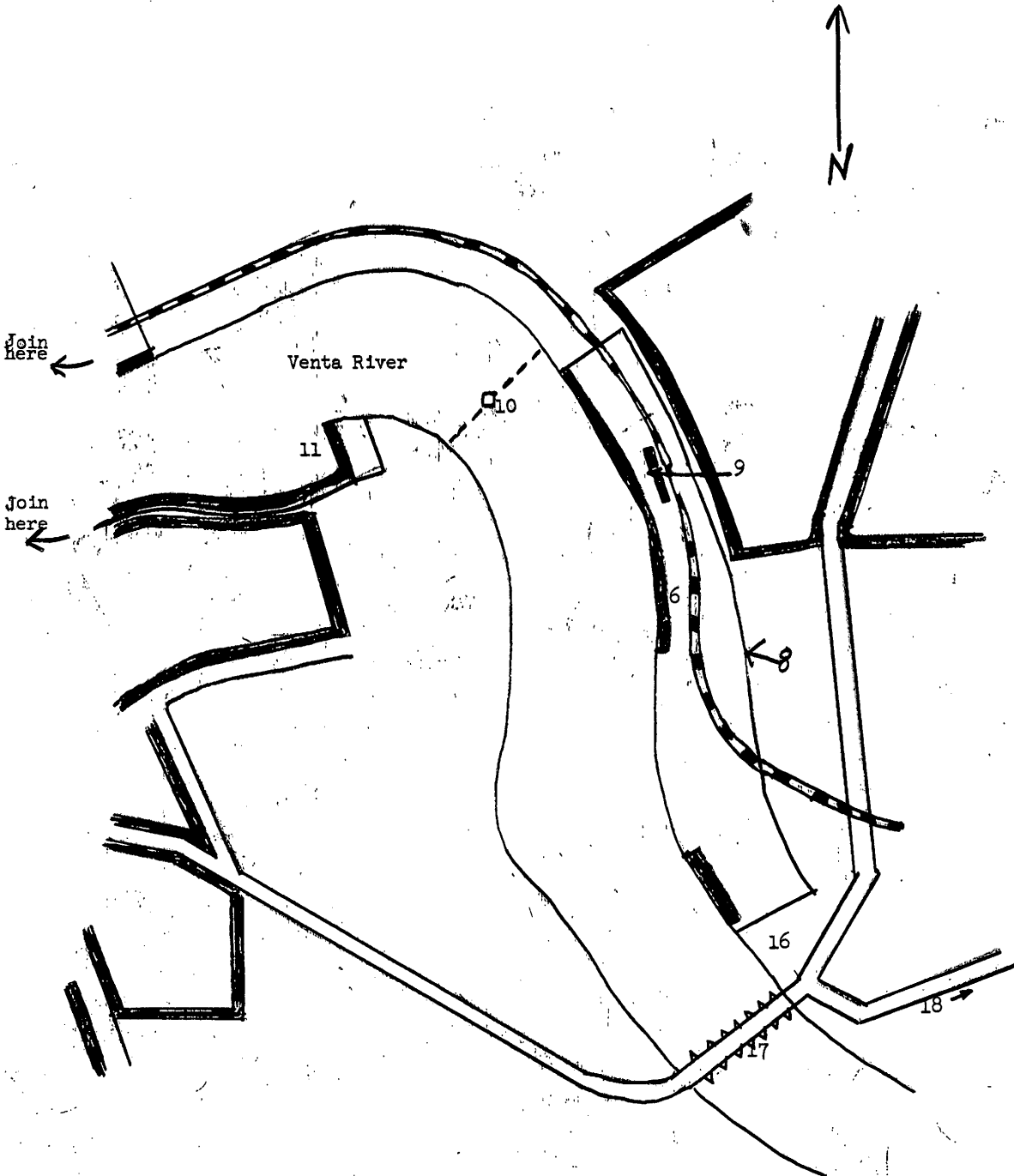
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Sketch No. 1

: Ventspils Harbor (cont.)



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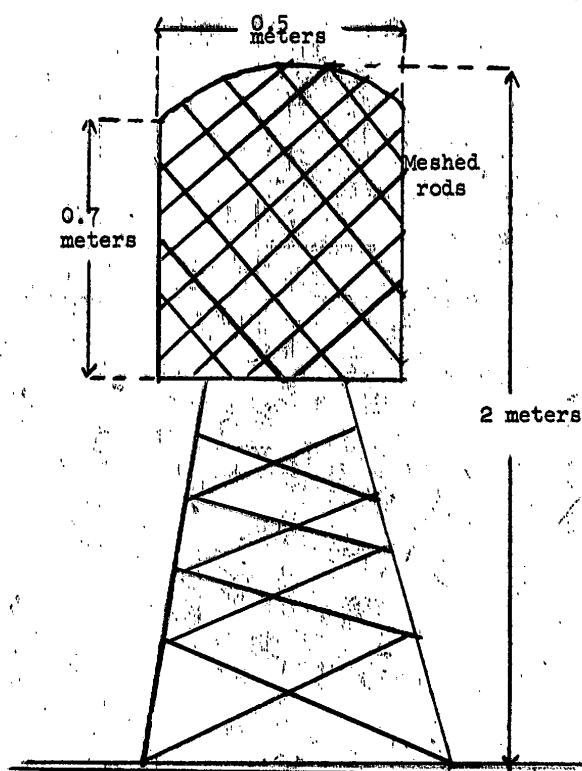
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Sketch No. 2

: Radar Antenna Observed Atop a Building



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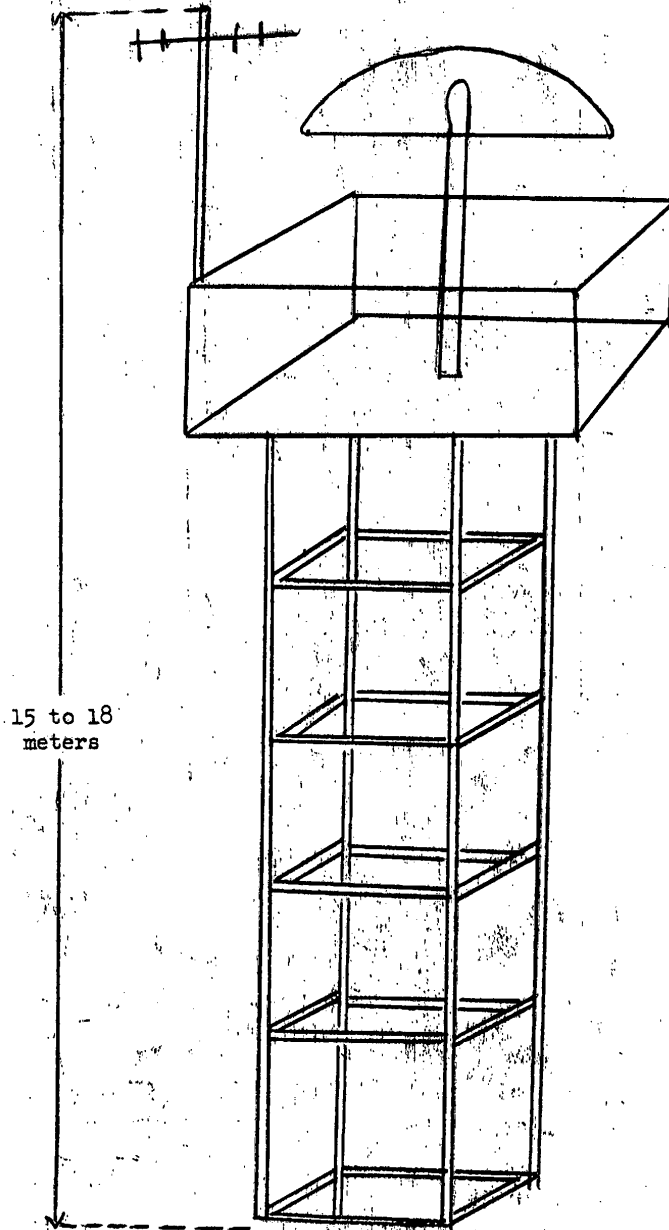
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Sketch No. 3.

Radar Mast Which Appears as Item No. 14 on Sketch No. 1



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